

Office of the Permanent Diaconate

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington

JANUARY 2025

Mass Celebrating the Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., January 19

Annual Mass Commemorating the Legacy of
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

Join us in a celebration *Honoring the Dream*
of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Holy Family Catholic Church
2210 Callaway Street
Hillcrest Heights, MD 20748

Praise and Worship – 9:30 a.m. E.T.
Mass – 10:00 a.m. E.T.
Fellowship – 11:15 a.m. E.T.

Wilton Cardinal Gregory
Archbishop of Washington
Principal Celebrant

Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Jr.
Auxiliary Bishop of Washington


The Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of
Washington


For ASL interpretation, contact
deafcatholic@adw.org two weeks
in advance

For more information, contact Karen Fowler,
Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach
fowlerk@adw.org or call (301) 853-5347.

All deacons and wives are very cordially invited to a special Mass celebrating the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The Mass will be held at Holy Family Catholic Church, Hillcrest Heights, Maryland. His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory will be Principal Celebrant at the Mass, with Most Reverend Roy E. Campbell, Jr., as concelebrant. This Mass, in celebration of our rich cultural heritage as a faith community, is sponsored by the ADW Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach.

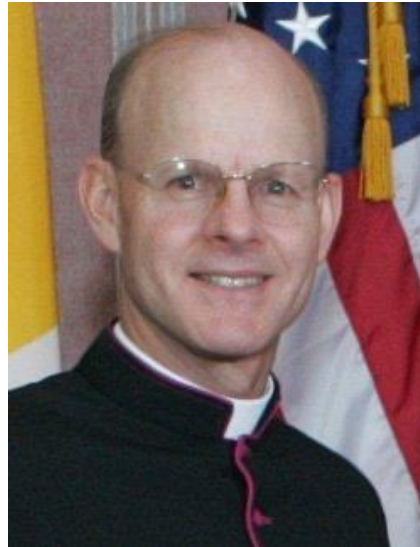
January 2025

The event will begin with Praise and Worship music at 9:30 a.m. provided by the Howard University Bison Catholic Campus Ministry Choir, followed by the Mass at 10:00 a.m. After the liturgy, deacons and wives are warmly invited to join in a fellowship reception at 11:15 a.m.

Click [here](#) to download the flier and [here](#) for more details on the event.

Please join in faith and fellowship as we come together to honor the remarkable legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and celebrate the gift of the Black Catholic Community. If you need further information on this celebration, please contact Ms. Karen Fowler (Fowlerk@adw.org) at the ADW Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach.

Blessings and Deacons Virtual Workshop: January 25



(Pictured above, Monsignor Stephen J. Rossetti will lead our virtual workshop presentation on Blessings and Deacons, scheduled for January 25, 2025 beginning at 10:00 a.m.).

Our calendar 2025 ongoing formation workshop series begins with Monsignor Stephen J. Rossetti leading a virtual presentation on Blessings and Deacons by Zoom on Saturday, January 25, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

Please register for the workshop and to receive the Zoom link for our workshop and preparatory materials [by clicking here](#).

Monsignor Rossetti is a professor and nationally-known lecturer, and an expert on the topic of blessings, having recently written a book entitled "The Priestly Blessing -- Rediscovering the Gift" (Ave Maria Press, 2018).

Many of us may have wondered of our ministerial responsibilities, prerogatives and abilities with respect to blessings, what and who can be blessed by deacons, when and how should the blessings occur, and particularly what prayers should be included in the various blessings. We will learn much that will be specifically applicable to our ministry and our identity as deacons.

Monsignor Rossetti will provide a refresher on the basics of blessings by deacons, provide advanced insights on blessings, comment on various particular situations for blessings, including deliverance ministry, and answer questions webinar participants may have on deacons' blessings. For example, what is the appropriate course of action for a deacon who is asked to provide a blessing in a situation not covered specifically in the Book of Blessings (Catholic Book Publishing, 1989).

During his presentation, Monsignor Rossetti will be referencing the Book of Blessings, a guide that many deacons have access to either in their personal libraries or at their parish. Monsignor Rossetti joined us two years ago, and we are pleased that he can update and deepen our understanding of this most important liturgical topic.

Please plan to join us for this topical virtual workshop. (Two continuing formation hours).

RCIA to OCIA -- What Deacons and Wives Need to Know: February 12



(Pictured above, Ms. Sara Blauvelt, ADW Secretary of Catechesis, will lead a workshop on the new OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in person at the Pastoral Center and virtually by Zoom).

Ms. Sara Blauvelt, ADW Secretary of Catechesis, will lead a presentation on the new OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) which replaces the RCIA and important changes to the text and Rites that everyone in catechumenal ministry should consider.

The workshop will be held on Wednesday, February 12 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. both in person at the Pastoral Center and virtually by Zoom. For those participating in person, a light dinner will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. Registration instructions will be available in early January.

The Order of Christian Initiation remains familiar, but there are changes. This workshop will provide an overview of what has changed and what has not changed.

Specifically, we will address the more precise wording applied to those in the catechumenal process, as well as updated names for some Rites. We will also look at some of the ritual text to see how harmonizes with the Roman Missal. There will be ample time for 'questions and answers.'

Ms. Blauvelt serves as the Secretary for Catechesis for the Archdiocese of Washington. She has a Masters in Catechesis/Religious Education and 28 years of catechetical experience. She has supported the catechumenal ministry of parishes for the past 13 years.

Our discussion will equip deacons and wives with the insights and knowledge to use the new ritual text, which is mandatory beginning Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025. (Two continuing formation credit hours).

Advent Day of Reflection for Deacons and Wives: Recap



(Pictured above, Bishop Juan Esposito presides at Mass at St. Ursula's Chapel, Pastoral Center at the Advent Day of Reflection for Deacons, Candidates and Wives held on December 7, assisted by (left to right): Deacon Oscar Mendez, Deacon Kenneth Angell as Master of Ceremonies, Monsignor Joseph Ranieri concelebrating, and Deacon Darryl Kelley).

Over 110 participants enjoyed the spiritually meaningful Advent Day of Reflection for Deacons, Candidates and Wives held on December 7 at the Pastoral Center. Bishop Juan R. Esposito was Principal Celebrant and homilist at our Mass, and presented the Advent spiritual reflection.

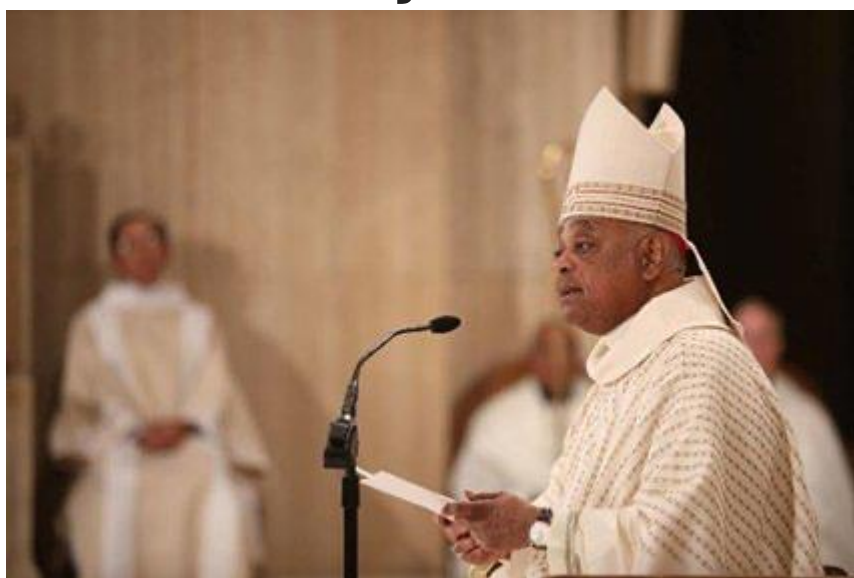
In his inspiring homily, Bishop Esposito reminded participants that whether ordained ministers or members of the lay apostolate, our diaconate community is called to be led by the Holy Spirit to reach out and serve those many people in our world who have so many needs, the hurting, the scattered and the lost.

In his very meaningful Spiritual Reflection, Bishop Esposito referred to the Beatitudes and his Coat of Arms, "Blessed are the Peacemakers," exhorting us to be ambassadors of peace: to share compassion with those in great need, modeled after the suffering of Christ.

In this popular annual event, we prayerfully prepared ourselves as individuals and for our pastoral responsibilities during the Advent season by participating in Mass together, reflecting upon Bishop Esposito's spiritual presentation, and had the opportunity for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and receipt of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Special thanks to Bishop Esposito for leading our Day of Reflection, to Monsignor Joseph Ranieri our concelebrant at the Mass; and Deacon Yannick Allepot (Adoration), Deacon Kenneth Angell (Master of Ceremonies at Mass); Deacon Darryl Kelley (Assisting Deacon at Mass); Deacon Oscar Mendez (Assisting Deacon at Mass); and Deacon Keith Somerville (Assisting at Mass). Also, special thanks to Mrs. Anne Healey, wife of Deacon Neal Conway, who served as lector at Mass.

'Save the Dates' for Diaconate Community Events 2025



(Pictured above, Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory presided at the Permanent Diaconate Ordination on June 22, 2019, held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Cardinal Gregory will preside at the upcoming Permanent Diaconate ordination scheduled for June 28, 2025).

Please 'save the dates' for the diaconate community events scheduled for the first half of 2025. These activities are designed to enrich our spiritual lives, enhance our pastoral capabilities and enjoy the fraternity and sorority of our diaconate community.

January 19, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.: Mass Celebrating the Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. All deacons and wives are very cordially invited to a special Mass celebrating the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The Mass will be held at Holy Family Catholic Church, Hillcrest Heights, Maryland. Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory will be Principal Celebrant at the Mass, with Most Reverend Roy E. Campbell, Jr., as concelebrant. Please see more detailed article in this newsletter.

January 25, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon: Blessings and Deacons. Our first ongoing formation workshop for 2025 will focus on Blessings and Deacons. Monsignor Stephen J. Rossetti will lead our virtual presentation. Monsignor Rossetti is a professor and nationally-known lecturer, and an expert on the topic of blessings, having written a book entitled "The Priestly Blessing -- Rediscovering the Gift" (Ave Maria Press, 2018). Please see more detailed article in this newsletter. (Two continuing formation credit hours).

February 12, 2025, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: RCIA to OCIA: What you Need to Know. Ms. Sara Blauvelt, ADW Secretary of Catechesis, will lead a presentation on the new OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) and important changes to the text that everyone in catechumenal ministry should consider. Our discussion will equip deacons and wives with the basics to use the new ritual text, which is mandated beginning Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025. This workshop will be offered both in person at the Pastoral Center and virtually by Zoom. Please see more detailed article in this newsletter. (Two continuing formation credit hours).

March 8, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.: Annual Lenten Day of Reflection For Deacons and Wives. Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory will be the Principal Celebrant and homilist at our Mass during our Lenten Day of Reflection for Deacons and Wives, held in the Pastoral Center. In this popular annual event, deacons and wives will have the opportunity to worship together at Mass, listen to a spiritual reflection, and have time for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions. Luncheon will be served. (One continuing formation credit hour).

March 21-23, 2025: Spring Deacons and Wives Retreat. The Spring deacons and wives retreat returns in 2025 at the Loyola Retreat House in Faulkner, Maryland. Reverend Nicholas Dustin Blackwell, O. Carm., will be our Retreat Leader. After graduating from college, Father Blackwell he joined the Peace Corps and served in The Gambia, West Africa. During his service, he was injured and eventually lost his leg to amputation. Father Blackwell earned an STB and MDiv. from The Catholic University of America in December 2016. He earned his Licentiate in Canon Law (JCL) in August 2023 and is currently studying for a Doctorate in Canon Law (JCD). Father Blackwell is a nationally known spiritual advisor, and was also a part time military chaplain at Joint Andrews Airforce Base in 2024.

May 17, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon: Workshop on the Charitable Charism of the Josephite Order and the Permanent Diaconate. Our Spring continuing formation workshop for deacons and wives will focus on the charitable charism of the Josephite Order and the Permanent Diaconate. Following the reinstatement of the permanent diaconate after Vatican Council II, The Josephites led the formation program in our Archdiocese and other U.S. dioceses, and that Josephite commitment to charity continues ingrained in our permanent diaconate. We will meet at St. Joseph's Seminary, 1200 Varnum Street, NE, tour the seminary and have a panel discussion with current Josephite formators and permanent deacons, including Deacon Joseph Curtis, Jr., who were directly connected to the first classes of permanent deacons in our Archdiocese. (Two continuing formation credit hours).

June 7, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.: Anniversary Jubilarian Mass and Celebration Luncheon. Bishop Juan R. Esposito will be our Principal Celebrant and homilist at our Mass for the anniversary celebration of jubilarian deacons and their wives, to be held in St. Ursula Chapel at the Pastoral Center. Several ordination classes will be honored. A celebratory luncheon will be served. A personal invitation will be issued to all jubilarians, and all deacons and wives are invited and highly encouraged to join in this Mass and celebration.

June 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.: Permanent Diaconate Ordination for the Class of 2025. Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory will preside at the ordination of those candidates called to Orders in 2025. Please plan on attending the ordination of our newest class of deacons, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Deacons should bring an album, cincture, and white stole, and plan to arrive by 9:30 to vest. Wives of deacons will have reserved seating.

July, 2025, Summer Reading and Virtual Discussion for Deacons and Wives: Our tradition of a summer reading selection for deacons and wives continues in summer, 2025. Deacon James Keating will lead us in a virtual discussion of one of his diaconal spiritual texts in mid-July. Deacon Keating is a nationally-known author, speaker and thought leader on the permanent diaconate. The text and date of our July virtual discussion with Deacon Keating will be announced early next year. (Up to six continuing formation credit hours).

Events for the second half of 2025 will be announced in a future newsletter. Special thanks to the members of the Continuing Formation Committee who have worked diligently to plan these activities. We know how quickly our ministerial, work and family calendars can fill up, so please Save the Dates for these events aimed at enriching our spirituality, increasing our pastoral and liturgical skills, and deepening the fraternity and sorority of our ministry.

Replays of 2024 Continuing Formation Activities and Reporting Worksheet



As set forth in the *Archdiocesan Policies and Guidelines for the Ministry of Permanent Deacons* (February, 2020), continuing formation is an ongoing, lifetime process and responsibility of every deacon, involving the development of the whole person -- spiritual, intellectual and emotional. The Policies and Guidelines provide that every permanent deacon incardinated in the Archdiocese, or in active ministry here, who has not attained the age of 75 years, engage in twelve hours of qualifying continuing formation activities each year.

The majority of active deacons readily attain the twelve hour annual continuing formation requirement. For example, this year the Office of the Permanent Diaconate

sponsored workshops, conferences and activities that would result in 19 continuing formation hours.

When available, viewing replays of these activities count towards the requirements. Also, workshops and lectures sponsored by the ADW, such as workshops offered by the ADW Office of Catechesis and lectures sponsored by the ADW Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach, will generally count towards this annual requirement. In addition, deacons have access to the Saint Luke Institute rich library of on-line workshops covering a wide number of meaningful topics. (Please see next article in this newsletter).

Please note the following for calendar year 2024: (1) since this is the first year in which the ongoing formation requirements have been reinstated since the pandemic, compliance will be on a 'best efforts' basis; and (2) the annual compliance form should be filled out and returned to the Office of the Permanent Diaconate by February 14, 2025.

Replays of 2024 continuing formation activities and the one-page reporting worksheet form for calendar year 2024, to be returned to the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, are attached below:



[Deacon and Wives Continuing Formation Replays Available.2024](#)



[Deacons Continuing Formation Worksheet.2024](#)

Please contact Deacon Don Longano (longanod@adw.org) if you need further information about our diaconate continuing formation process.



SAINT LUKE INSTITUTE

The Saint Luke Institute is a preeminent Catholic organization fostering healthy ministries for a vibrant Catholic Church. Deacons have access to a wealth of continuing formation on-demand offerings from the Saint Luke Institute that can enrich our ministries and our personal lives. Workshop topics include several offerings in the following categories: safe environment, behavior and psychology, pastoral leadership, spirituality, training and intercultural skills. These on-demand virtual workshops

generally qualify as part of the 12 hour ongoing formation annual requirements for active ADW deacons.

Deacons can register for these workshops at sliconnect.org/registre. Please send a message to Deacon Don Longano (Longanod@adw.org) for the access code to the clergy group account. All deacons are encouraged to review and participate in these very useful workshop offerings.

As one still-topical example, in September, 2023 the Office of the Permanent Diaconate sponsored a virtual workshop discussion on Mental Wellness for deacons and wives led by Dr. Nancy A. Kluge, Chair of the Saint Luke Institute's Clinical Continuing Education Committee. She was accompanied by Stephanie Lerner, a professional therapist at the Institute.

Discussion topics during the workshop included suggestions for developing and sustaining skills to retain a healthy ministry-life balance, and warning signs to watch out for that can potentially lead to ministerial 'burn-out', anxiety or depression. Deacon Ted Dmuchowski moderated our discussion, and Dr. Rhonda Scott, wife of Deacon Bill Scott was our technology leader for the virtual discussion.

If you were not able to participate in this workshop, the video replay of this meaningful presentation can be found [by clicking here](#). (Two continuing formation hours).

Welcome Mrs. Karen Sachs

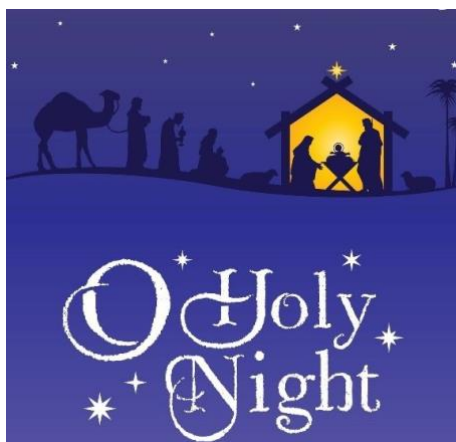


The diaconate community warmly welcomes Mrs. Karen Sachs as the incoming Administrative Assistant for the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, and the Diaconate Formation program. Mrs. Sachs will begin her new position in mid-January. She is a

dedicated and faithful member of our Church, and has over six years professional experience working for the Archdiocese of Washington in the John Paul II Seminary, and the Office of Ministerial Leadership. Mrs. Sachs graduated from Cornell University and holds a Masters Degree in Education from American University. Prior to her tenure at the ADW, she spent two decades teaching. She has been married to Andrew Sachs for 31 years, and they have three adult children.

As a devoted parishioner of Saint Raphael Parish, Rockville, Maryland, Mrs. Sachs wears many hats, including Pastoral Council member, sacristan, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and lector. Above all, she loves the Church and considers it a joy and privilege to serve its faithful. We in the diaconate community look forward to working with Mrs. Sachs as we serve the People of God of our beloved Archdiocese.

Christmas and New Year Blessings!



Best wishes to you and your family for a Joyous Christmas Season and a Blessed New Year! From your Office of the Permanent Diaconate Team: Very Reverend Anthony Lickteig, Deacon Charles Huber, Mrs. Karen Sachs and Deacon Don Longano.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following members of the Permanent Deacon community in your prayers this month.

Please inform Deacon Don Longano if you would like to add someone to this prayer list in our next newsletter.



Deacon William Jess Nickerson, deceased, ordination class of 2002.

Mrs. Mariann Coughlin Stackpole, deceased, wife of Deacon Terrell U. Stackpole, ordination class of 1992.

Deacon John R. Barnes, ordination class of 1995, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Michael Bond, ordination class of 2006, for prayers of healing.

Deacon James L. Caldwell, Jr., ordination class of 2013, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Francisco Cartagena, ordination class of 2011, for prayers of healing.

Mrs. Carmen Cordova-Ferrer, wife of Deacon Nathaniel Cordova-Ferrer, ordination class of 1994, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Joseph Curtis, Jr., ordination class of 2002, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Willis C. Daniels, ordination class of 1995, for prayers of healing

Deacon Ronald Ealey, ordination class of 1975, and his wife Catherine, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Frank Enderle, ordination class of 1991, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Clark L. Glenn, ordination class of 2002, and his wife Doris, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Carlos Hernandez, ordination class of 2013, for prayers of healing.

Mrs. Megan Jackson, daughter of Deacon Alan Jeeves, ordination class of 2013, for prayers of healing.

Deacon James C. McCann, Jr., ordination class of 1991, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Lawrence Miles, ordination class of 1993, for prayers of healing.

Deacon John Montgomery, ordination class of 2008, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Andrew J. Nosacek, ordination class of 1993 and his wife Lorraine Ann, for prayers of healing.

Mrs. Maureen (Mo) Pagan, wife of Deacon Rafael Pagan, ordination class of 2013, for prayers of healing.

Mrs. Eleanor Ripple, wife of Deacon Ammon Ripple, ordination class of 2010, for prayers of healing.

Deacon John E. Robinson, Jr., ordination class of 2008, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Walter Rourke, ordination class of 1988, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Paul Ruffo, ordination class of 2000, for prayers of healing.

Deacon McBurnett (Mack) Smith, ordination class of 2004, for prayers of healing.

Deacon Robert (Bobby) White, ordination class of 1997, for prayers of healing.

Anjanette Young, daughter of Deacon Willis C. Daniels, ordination class of 1995, for prayers of healing.

Office of the Permanent Diaconate

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301-853-4582 | huberc@adw.org

Mrs. Karen Sachs, Administrative Assistant (beginning mid-January) | Sachsk@adw.org



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